

X-34 Technology Testbed Flights

What are they?

- The primary focus is on two suborbital technology demonstration flights that are part of the X-34 development program
 - Flight profiles will be tailored to generate relevant environments for testing promising reusable launch technologies
 - Because the upper stage won't be on board, significant capability should be available to accommodate desired experiments
 - Test hardware development is not funded as part of the X-34 program
 - Limited funding for integration onto the X-34 vehicle is included
- "Piggyback" technology tests on the orbital demonstration flight will also be considered, as well as other possible follow-on testbed missions

When are they?

- Technology demonstration flights - December 1998 & June 1999
- Orbital demonstration flight - September 1998
- Early identification of technologies is desirable to minimize integration impacts
- Additional suborbital flights may be bought at \$2-3M / flt

NASA Point of Contact

Bill Pannell

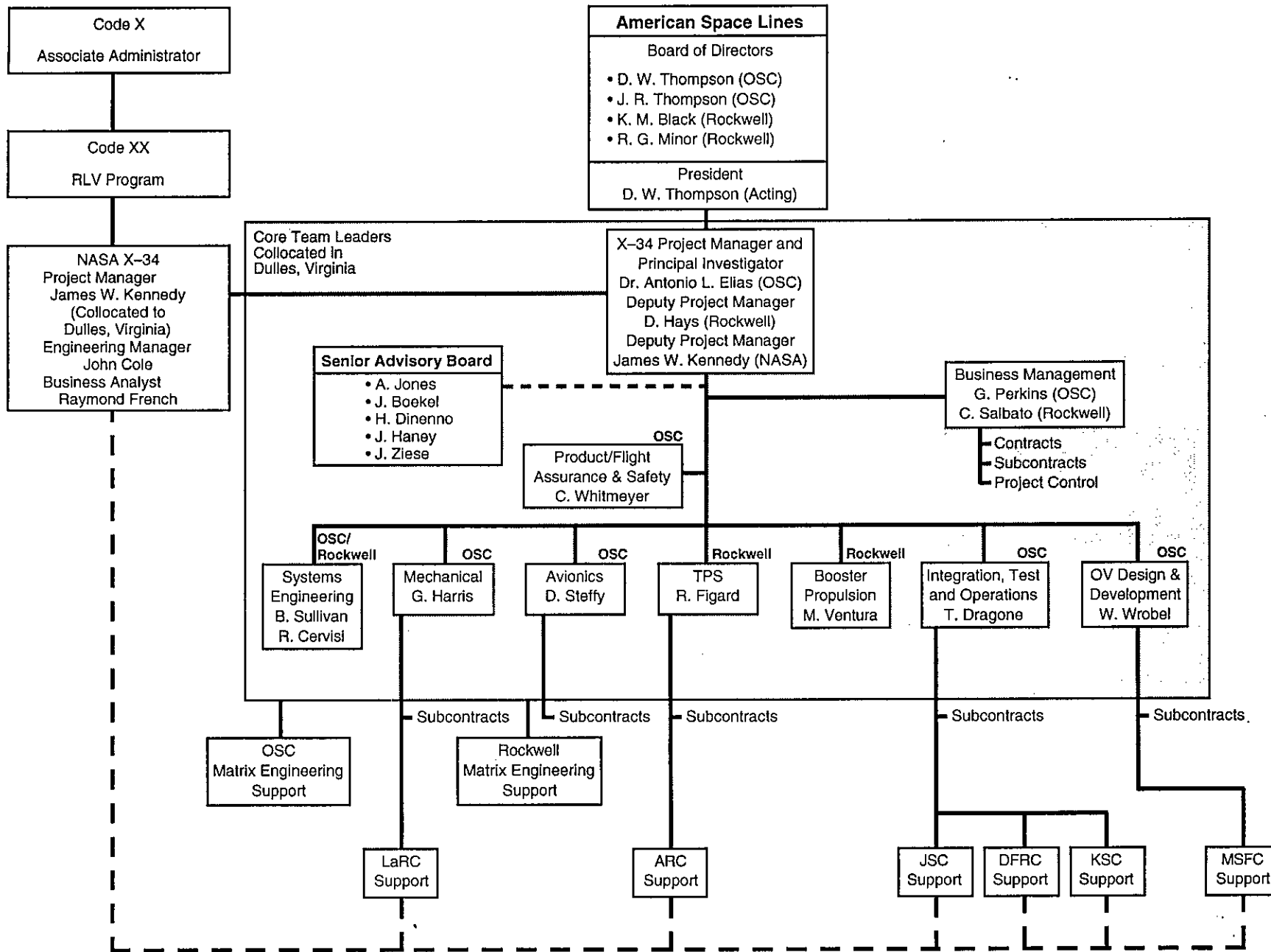
PD25, Bldg 4200

Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812

phone/fax: 205-544-0521/4225 email: pannell@opsmaster.msfc.nasa.gov

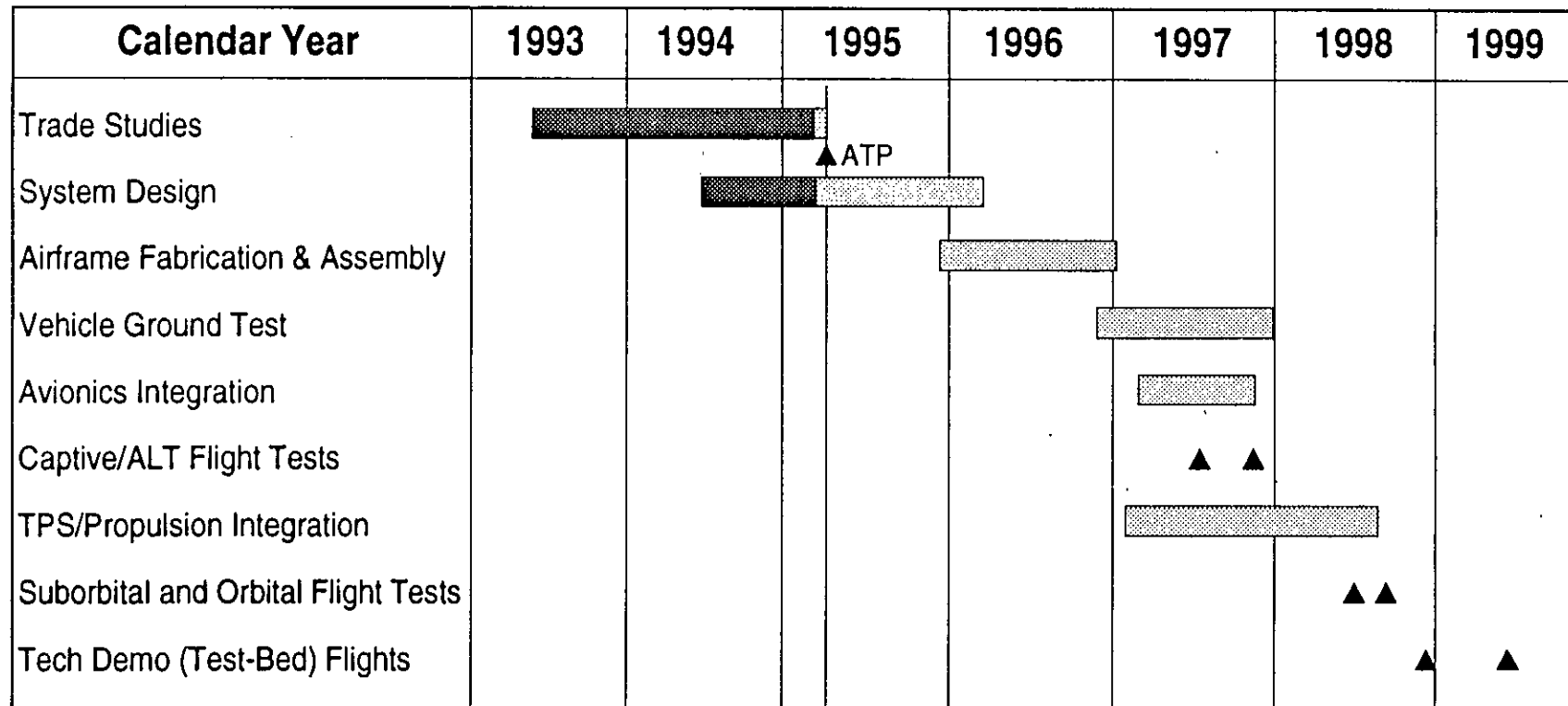
X-34

Proposed Management Structure and Organizational Interfaces



Our X-34 Program Schedule Reflects an 18 Month Advance Start

Orbital
Sciences
Corporation

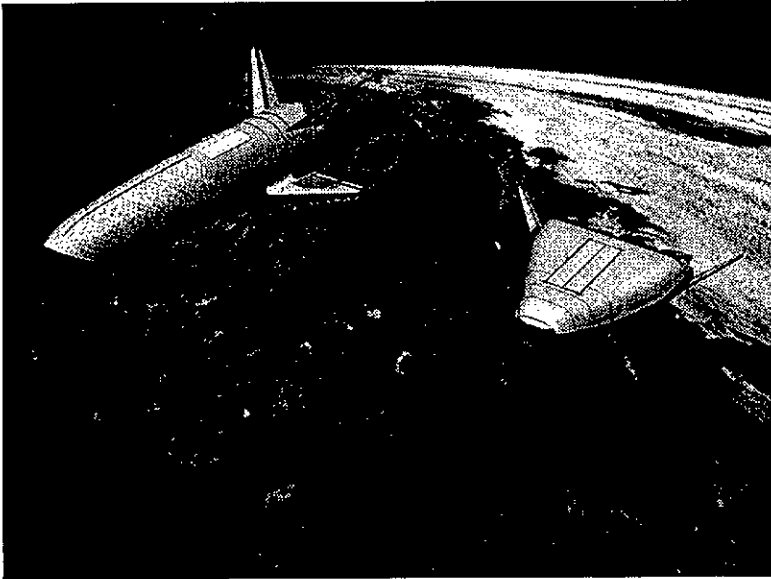


X-34 RLV Decision Criteria



- 1996 Decision
 - NASA Project Management Office \leq 20 People
 - Using “Traditional” Cost Estimating Techniques, Project “Should Cost” of X-34
 - Negotiated Value Should be 25%-50% Below this Value
 - Demonstrate an Industry Cost Share \geq 50%
 - Achieve Development Goals on Schedule and with Fixed Government Budget
 - Complete Design Freeze
- 1999 Decision
 - Verify Cost Targets Above With Actuals
 - Reduce Launch Cost by a Factor of 3
 - Demonstrate as a Part of the Basic Booster Design (Embedded Tech)
 - Reusable Composite or Metallic Tanks
 - Reusable and Operable Engines
 - Reusable and Durable TPS Materials
 - Operations Concepts
 - Initiate Flight Test by March 1, 1998
 - Demonstrate Orbital Delivery by December, 1998
 - Provide Flight Data to Validate Vehicle Hypersonics (Ascent and Re-entry)
 - Demonstrate Thru Innovative Partnership With Industry, a Successful Development Program Within 3 Years and with a Fixed Government Funding Profile

Program Overview



X-33 Program Goals and Objectives

Move immediately to mature the technologies essential for a decision on a next-generation reusable launch system capable of reliably serving the U.S. Government's and the commercial space transportation needs at substantially reduced costs.

The primary objectives of the X-33 program are to:

- mature the technologies required for the next-generation system
- demonstrate the capability to achieve low development and operational cost, and rapid launch turnaround times
- reduce technical risk to encourage private investment in the commercial development and operation of the next-generation system.

Implementation Strategy

- The X-33 program is an integrated, fast-track approach for reducing the technical and business risk in developing economical, operational, reusable launch vehicles.
- An integrated ground and flight test program that characterizes key component technologies and to validate their systems' capabilities, both from a performance and operations viewpoint.
 - The ground test program entails cycling of the candidate components under realistic environmental conditions to establish the acceptable number of flight cycles before deterioration, or failure of the components.
 - The flight test demonstration program will be implemented to identify component and system integration

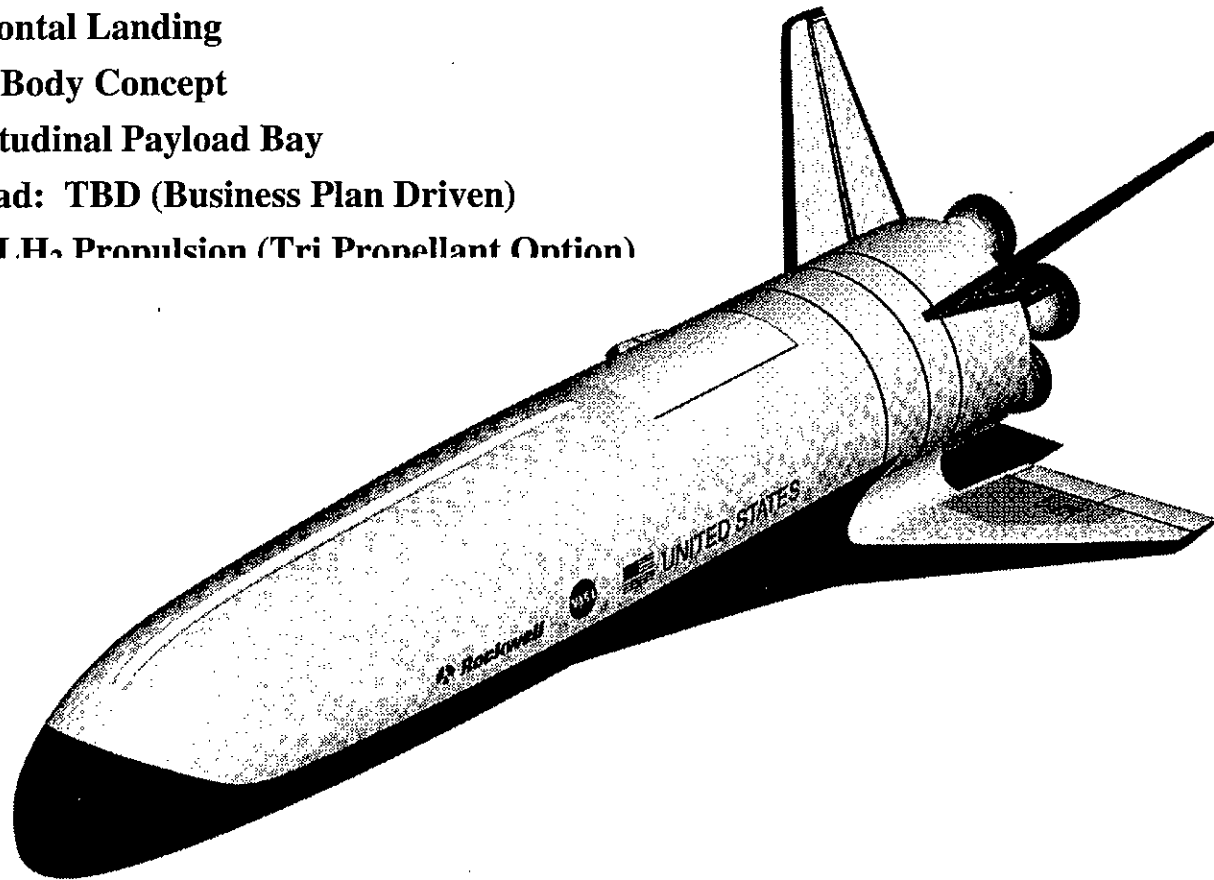


X-33 Attributes

- X-33 Is Not an Operational RLV System, But a Proof-of-Concept Demo
- X-33 Is Not A Shuttle II
- X-33 Is Not A Shuttle Basher
- X-33 Will Prove Concept of Single-Stage-To-Orbit Rocket
- X-33 Will Demonstrate Key Technologies in Flight
- X-33 Will Demonstrate "Airline Style" Operations
- X-33 Will Be a Fast Track Developed Vehicle
- X-33 Will Permit Acceptable Risk For Private Sector Investment In RLV
- **X-33 Is Industry Led**

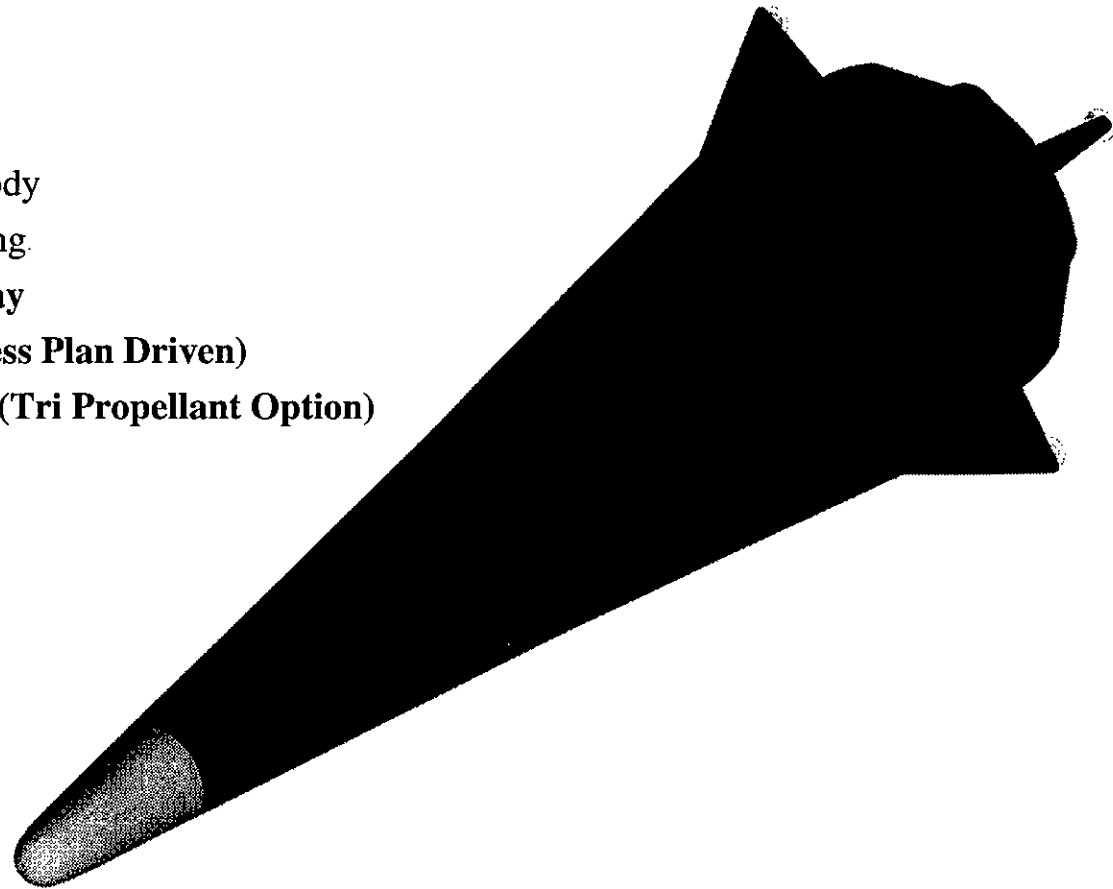
- **Reference Concept**

- Vertical Take-Off
- Horizontal Landing
- Wing Body Concept
- Longitudinal Payload Bay
- Payload: TBD (Business Plan Driven)
- LOX/LH₂ Propulsion (Tri Propellant Option)



- **Reference Concept**

- **Vertical Take-Off**
- + **Vertical Landing**
 - ◆ **Conic Reentry Body**
 - ◆ **Propulsive Landing**
- **Transverse Payload Bay**
- **Payload: TBD (Business Plan Driven)**
- **LOX/LH₂ Propulsion (Tri Propellant Option)**



- **Reference Concept**

- Vertical Take-Off
- Horizontal Landing
- Lifting Body Concept
- Longitudinal Payload Bay
- Payload: TBD (Business Plan Driven)
- + LOX/LH₂ Propulsion

